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COOPERATION AND COORDINATION OF ACTIVITIES WITH OTHER UNITED NATIONS BODIES AND OTHER ENTITIES

Cooperation and coordination of activities in crime prevention and criminal justice

Report of the Secretary-General

Summary

The present report provides an overview of cooperation and coordination of activities in crime prevention and criminal justice within the United Nations system and with intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations during the period from November 1992 to November 1993. It follows up the previous survey, submitted to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice at its second session, of activities in that field.

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INTRODUCTION

1. On the recommendation of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice at its second session, the Economic and Social Council adopted resolution 1993/34 of 27 July 1993. In section V, paragraph 6, of that resolution, the Secretary-General was requested to encourage and facilitate cooperation and coordination in accordance with the resolution and to report on the subject to the Commission at its third session.

2. The present report provides an overview of the cooperation and coordination of activities within the United Nations system and with intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations during the period from November 1992 to November 1993. With regard to the United Nations system, it reviews current and planned coordination activities. The report follows up the survey, submitted to the Commission at its second session (E/CN.15/1993/2), of activities carried out in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice, in so far as practical action has been taken.

3. Where cooperation and coordination is already addressed in other reports on substantive issues on the agenda of the Commission, the activities are summarized and a cross-reference to the report in question is made, particularly with regard to the report on activities of the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute (UNICRI) and other institutes (E/CN.15/1994/10).

I. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

4. The crime prevention and criminal justice programme greatly benefits from the involvement of various organizations contributing to the programme. This is equally true with regard to United Nations bodies as well as intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and other entities. It is not only when directly taking part in the programme that they contribute to the achievement of its goals, but also through their valuable work in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice throughout the world. Cooperation and coordination are not only important as a means of combining scarce resources. They promote also the dissemination of information on United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice policies, and create opportunities for the exchange of ideas and expertise on issues of mutual concern and for the implementation of joint projects.

5. Coordination of activities between the Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Branch and the United Nations International Drug Control Programme (UNDCP) was the subject of continuous discussion during the reporting period. Measures have been taken to ensure that the maximum benefit is derived from the substantive and physical vicinity of the two programmes. The Commission may wish to further explore ways of consolidating the efforts undertaken, particularly in connection with joint technical assistance and technical cooperation projects.

6. A call for intensified cooperation within the United Nations system in the area of human rights was made at the World Conference on Human Rights, held at Vienna from 14 to 25 June 1993 (see the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action adopted by the Conference (A/CONF.157/23)). The importance of the full and effective implementation of United Nations norms and standards on human rights in the administration of justice was reaffirmed by the Commission on Human Rights in its resolution 1993/44 of 5 March 1993. The proposals of the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities of the Commission on Human Rights, entrusting the Special Rapporteur on the independence of the judiciary with the task of examining ways and means of enhancing cooperation, were also endorsed in that resolution. Crime prevention issues related to human rights were discussed at the forty-fifth session of the Sub-Commission, held in August 1993. The Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice may wish to consider specific modalities for

enhancing its coordination with the Commission on Human Rights and the Sub-Commission, including direct contacts and the exchange of views on issues of common interest.

7. In order to promote a more comprehensive view of social development, crime prevention and criminal justice issues should be further integrated into the programmes of the various organizations active in the broader field of social development. In that context, the possibilities of collaborative work with the Division for the Advancement of Women should be strengthened. The publication by the Branch of Strategies for Confronting Domestic Violence: A Resource Manual (ST/CSDHA/20) was a step in that direction, but much more could be done, including joint projects. The Commission may wish to consider ways and means of further strengthening already existing ties with social development entities, taking into account the World Summit for Social Development, to be held at Copenhagen in March 1995.

8. When translating the concepts of cooperation, coordination and resource-sharing into practice, one issue to consider is how to maintain an overall perspective on the programme, in the light of the priorities as defined by the Commission. In fact, there might be risks in relying too much on cooperation and coordination with other organizations, including the danger of promoting projects which may be popular among donors and contributors, but which may not always focus strongly enough on the priority issues. The General Assembly, in its resolution 46/152 of 18 December 1991, and the Council, in its resolutions 1992/22 of 30 July 1992 and 1993/34, stress that the work carried out within the crime prevention and criminal justice programme should focus on the provision of practical assistance and technical cooperation upon request by Member States. A number of requests for assistance within the priority areas of the programme were received during the reporting period, the appropriate answers to which were almost without exception dependent on extrabudgetary funding. That may have negative effects on the long-term goals and overall image of the programme, and especially on its effectiveness and credibility, as the current resource situation does not allow for adequate responses, and efforts made so far to raise extrabudgetary funds have not been successful. Moreover, the United Nations is not in full control of the implementation of the mandates of the programme. The Branch is far too often at the receiving end of the coordination process of certain activities already initiated by others. Ideally, cooperation with other entities should supplement technical assistance and operational activities directly undertaken by the United Nations. In practice, however, it constitutes one of the main pillars of the work of the programme. Realistically, as it cannot be expected that the current situation will change dramatically in the near future, it is hoped that intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and other relevant institutions will not only continue to provide their invaluable support, but will further increase their collaboration to allow the programme to carry out its work within the framework of the priorities defined by the Commission.

II. PROGRAMME COORDINATION ACTIVITIES

9. During the period of work covered by the present report, the Branch has organized and contributed to numerous projects, international meetings, conferences, training courses and seminars, and prepared or participated in drawing up recommendations, manuals and other training material. Given the limited resources allocated to the programme, by far the largest part of the activities have been made possible through cooperation and coordination with other United Nations entities and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations.

10. Enhanced cooperation and coordination with other entities within the United Nations system not only ensure a better utilization of resources, but also improves the quality of the work by allowing for concerted action and the tackling of the problem of crime from a wide perspective. Cooperation and

coordination within the United Nations system as a continuous process involve the entire spectrum of entities in the fields of human rights, social development and drug abuse control.

11. The large network of contributors to the crime prevention and criminal justice programme includes not only intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations with a recognized status in relation to the United Nations, but also other relevant entities, as well as a number of universities and research institutions that offer their valuable services on a continuous basis. Cooperation with intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations has been mutually beneficial, allowing those organizations to take advantage of the larger political base provided by the activities of the United Nations, and allowing the United Nations to benefit from the expertise offered by the various non-governmental organizations, from the availability of extrabudgetary funds, as well as from a much wider dissemination of information concerning the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme. During the reporting period the Branch has made an effort to further enlarge this network and increase its activities.

12. It is not the purpose of the present report to account for all specific activities undertaken in cooperation with each organization. The information given should illustrate to what extent cooperation and coordination activities have become integrated in the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme.

A. Cooperation and coordination with relevant entities of the United Nations Secretariat

1. United Nations International Drug Control Programme

13. The Council, in its resolution 1992/22, determined the priority themes that were to guide the Commission in the years to come concerning the elaboration of a detailed programme of action and the corresponding budget allocations. In its resolution 1993/34, the Council reaffirmed those themes. One of the priority themes is national and transnational crime, organized crime, economic crime, including money-laundering, and the role of criminal law in the protection of the environment, an area that is also covered to a certain extent, although from a more narrowly defined perspective, by the mandate of UNDCP. In order to avoid overlapping, cooperation and coordination have become all the more important.

14. Requests for closer cooperation have been made on numerous occasions by the Council as well as by the General Assembly (see Assembly resolutions 45/123 of 14 December 1990 and 47/91 of 16 December 1992 and Council resolutions 1992/22, 1993/30 of 27 July 1993 and 1993/34). It is the task of the Director-General of the United Nations Office at Vienna to examine possible ways of strengthening cooperation and coordination between the two entities and to design a framework for the activities undertaken. This has become particularly important since the transfer of the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs from the United Nations Office at Vienna to United Nations Headquarters in 1993.

15. The Council, in its resolution 1993/34 on the implementation of Assembly resolutions 46/152 and 47/91 and in its resolution 1992/22 concerning crime prevention and criminal justice, requested the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice to maintain close cooperation with, inter alia, the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, in order to increase the efficiency and effectiveness of United Nations activities in areas of mutual concern and interest and to ensure coordination and avoidance of duplication. Furthermore, the Commission on Narcotic Drugs will discuss coordination of drug-related activities and cooperation between UNDCP and the Branch as a separate item at its thirty-seventh session.

16. A number of initiatives have been taken during the reporting period by the two entities to meet requests for further cooperation and coordination. Cooperation and coordination of activities are being reviewed on an ongoing basis in order to reflect new developments in relevant areas. The steps taken include routine activities such as the exchange of information with regard to preparations for missions as well as specific projects. Joint fact finding missions undertaken in response to requests by Member States have provided the foundation for further collaborative activities.

17. At present, UNDCP and the Branch are preparing a joint position paper, with input from UNICRI on international cooperation in crime prevention and drug control for presentation at the Ninth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders to be held in 1995. The paper seeks to identify linkages between crime prevention and drug control. Further, the Branch contributes to the System-Wide Action Plan on Drug Abuse Control, which is regularly updated by UNDCP with the objective of coordinating drug-related activities within the United Nations system. The Branch also regularly attends meetings of the Sub-Committee on Drug Control of the Administrative Committee on Coordination, which deals with matters of inter-agency cooperation.

18. The issue of international mutual legal assistance in criminal matters was considered at two different expert meetings during the reporting period, one held by UNDCP and the other, also addressing the issue of extradition, by the Branch. The two meetings reflected the problem from different perspectives, and there was active mutual participation of both UNDCP and the Branch. Advisory legal assistance is an area where cooperation and coordination with UNDCP is particularly needed. It is envisaged that the legal assistance unit of UNDCP and the Branch should cooperate in the development of guidelines for the implementation of bilateral or regional model treaties for international cooperation, such as those adopted by the General Assembly in its resolutions 45/116 and 45/117 of 14 December 1990. As a result of direct cooperation in technical assistance projects, the Branch also participated in an interregional course on investigative techniques in money-laundering, organized by the Institute for Advanced Police Training in Malta in March 1993.

19. To be able systematically to take advantage of information available on experts and consultants of interest to both UNDCP and the Branch, a common, computerized roster has been proposed. Such a roster is under development, to be used within the network of crime prevention and criminal justice institutes. A software programme has to that end been developed and provided to the Branch by UNICRI, in accordance with paragraph 17 of the programme of action annexed to Assembly resolution 46/152, and with section I, paragraph 3 (j), of Council resolution 1992/22. The purpose of the project is to avoid duplication of work, and thus to save resources and provide a larger variety of candidates for each assignment.

20. During the reporting period a working group, including senior officers from both the Branch and UNDCP, was created on the initiative of the Director-General of the United Nations Office at Vienna, with the objective of identifying areas of further cooperation between the two entities and of making proposals regarding the modalities of increased cooperation in those areas. A report published by the group in December 1993 indicated four areas of interest for further cooperation, as follows:

(a) Integration of anti-drugs legislation in the penal codes of Member States;

(b) Money-laundering and the fight against organized transnational criminality in general;

(c) Protection of the rights and freedoms of the individual in the elaboration of anti-drugs legislation;

(d) Preparation of guidelines and manuals in the area of international mutual assistance in penal matters.

21. It has been foreseen that the two entities take up cooperation within the above-mentioned areas during early 1994, which would allow for a more effective response to the requests for technical assistance from Member States. Further details on cooperation between UNDCP and the Branch are contained in document E/CN.7/1994/7.

2. United Nations Centre for Human Rights

22. The Branch maintains close relations with the Centre for Human Rights as a result of the complementary nature of the work of the two entities and in accordance with the request by the Council in its resolution 1992/22, section IV, paragraph 6, which was reiterated in its resolution 1993/34, section V, paragraph 2. Furthermore, the question of cooperation and coordination of activities with the Branch was also addressed by the Commission on Human Rights at its forty-ninth session (see its resolutions 1993/41 of 5 March 1993 and 1993/49 of 9 March 1993).

23. A number of seminars and training courses were carried out jointly by the Branch and the Centre, and an increasing part of the work was devoted to the elaboration of training materials for those activities. For example, the Branch cooperated with the Centre in the substantive preparation and servicing of a training course for judges, lawyers and prosecutors, held at Bucharest in November 1992, of a follow-up course in November 1993, and of a seminar on human rights for instructors at police academies in March 1993. Further information on those seminars will be found in the report on implementation of norms and standards in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice (E/CN.15/1994/7).

24. A manual on international standards related to pretrial detention is under preparation in cooperation with the Centre and the Minnesota Lawyers Human Rights Committee. In addition, the Branch cooperates with the Centre in the preparation of a training manual for law enforcement officials on human rights in the administration of justice.

25. In the aftermath of the political changes of recent years in eastern Europe, a number of the Governments of the new democracies have requested assistance in the restructuring of their judicial systems, taking into account the provisions of the various United Nations instruments in the field of human rights and crime prevention and criminal justice. In response, the Branch, in cooperation with the Centre, has assisted in providing recommendations and in finalizing the draft criminal code and the draft code of criminal procedure for Belarus. In addition, an extensive project regarding judicial reform in the Russian Federation is being developed pursuant to a request from that country (see paragraph 52). Further information on those projects will be found in the report on progress made in the implementation of Council resolutions 1992/22 and 1993/31 (E/1994/13).

3. Department for Policy Coordination and Sustainable Development

26. The Branch maintains close contact with the various United Nations entities in the broader field of social development in terms of a regular exchange of information on issues of mutual interest. Coordination with the Division for the Advancement of Women led, in particular, to the preparation by the Branch of Strategies for Confronting Domestic Violence: A Resource Manual, which has been presented to the Commission on the Status of Women. Further information on that project will be found in the report on the implementation of United Nations standards and norms in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice (E/CN.15/1994/7).

27. During the reporting period, a substantive paper on "Family and crime" was prepared by the Branch and published in the International Year of the Family occasional papers series (number 3, 1992). That important issue will also be the subject of deliberations during the World Summit for Social Development. At the World Summit there will be discussions on the wider question of the effects of social change. In recent decades, a large number of countries have seen a decline in income per capita, which has resulted in growing urban poverty, the dissolution of households, leaving many women alone with children to feed, and an ever more serious problem with street children. The Commission may wish to consider identifying areas of cooperation and ways of coordinating activities with the Department for Policy Coordination and Sustainable Development on such matters.

4. International Law Commission

28. With regard to the creation of an international criminal court, the Branch participated in the World Conference on the Establishment of an International Criminal Tribunal to Enforce International Criminal Law and Human Rights, held at Siracusa, Italy, from 2 to 5 December 1992, and in a meeting on the establishment of such an institution, held at Vancouver, Canada, at the end of March 1993. A draft statute on the creation of an international criminal court was presented to the International Law Commission at its forty-fifth session. A request was then sent out to Governments to submit their comments on the draft to the Secretary-General by 15 February 1994. Further information on cooperation with the International Law Commission will be found in the report on the implementation of United Nations standards and norms in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice (E/CN.15/1994/7).

5. Department of Peace-keeping Operations

29. The Council, in its resolution 1993/34, welcomed with appreciation the Secretariat's participation in, and contribution to, the United Nations peace-keeping operations. It further requested the Secretary-General to develop basic courses on United Nations norms and guidelines in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice to be used for training peace-keeping and emergency mission personnel and their national counterparts. The Secretary-General was also requested to ensure the involvement of the Branch in the planning of such missions. During 1993 the Branch provided assistance to the peace-keeping operations in Cambodia, Somalia, the territory of the former Yugoslavia, El Salvador and South Africa.

30. Regarding Cambodia, the Branch has, as a continuation of ongoing cooperation with the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia, prepared a project on the training of trainers in legislation and public service ethics. The project will build on the work already undertaken by the Branch during earlier missions to that country.

31. In support of the United Nations Operation in Somalia, the Branch undertook in August 1993 an evaluation mission to that country upon a request by the Department of Peace-keeping Operations to assist the Special Representative of the Secretary-General in Somalia in re-establishing the police and criminal justice system.

32. The Branch continued its cooperation with the United Nations Protection Force (UNPROFOR) in former Yugoslavia. In April 1993, it took part in a seminar held at Zagreb on the United Nations Civilian Police Force (CIVPOL). Further, the Branch, with the cooperation and support of the Ministry of Interior of Austria, initiated preparations for a practical workshop for station commanders of CIVPOL, UNPROFOR, held at Wiener Neustadt, Austria, in January 1994.

33. During the reporting period the Branch was also requested to provide its advice on the selection of experts for the evaluation of the setting-up of a democratic and civilian police force in El Salvador as part of the United Nations Observer Mission operating in that country.

34. The Branch has further, in response to a request from the United Nations Observer Mission in South Africa (the Goldstone Commission), offered its assistance in the treatment of victims of violence, as well as further advice for the implementation of the recommendations of the Goldstone Commission.

35. In addition, the Branch continued its work on the development of basic courses and manuals on United Nations norms and guidelines, designed to upgrade criminal justice systems. In that respect, with regard to peace-keeping operations, the following activities were undertaken:

(a) Formulation of an introductory course for peace-keeping personnel based on United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice instruments. The course should be part of an integrated new United Nations training programme for peacekeepers prepared by the Office of Human Resources Management of the Secretariat;

(b) Publication of a handbook for the civilian police components of United Nations peace-keeping missions, to be used in their monitoring functions as well as for training purposes;

(c) Formulation of a first draft of a Police Code of Conduct and a Disciplinary Code for Civilian Police Components of United Nations Peace-keeping Operations, the main provisions of which were incorporated in the standard operating procedure of CIVPOL, UNPROFOR.

36. Further information regarding the involvement of the Branch in United Nations peace-keeping missions will be found in the report on progress made in the implementation of Council resolutions 1992/22 and 1993/31 (E/1994/13).

6. Regional commissions

37. All United Nations regional economic commissions are taking active part in the organization of the regional preparatory meetings for the Ninth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, to be held in early 1995 (see E/CN.15/1994/8).

38. With the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), in particular, a regular exchange of information on projects, mission reports and international conferences took place. ESCAP is so far the only regional commission with a regional adviser on crime prevention and criminal justice. During the reporting period, the Interregional Adviser at the Branch and the Regional Adviser at ESCAP met and discussed projects of common concern and ways to coordinate their activities in the region (see E/CN.15/1994/6).

39. Close contacts have also been kept with the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), in particular since the African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders operates under the auspices of ECA. Financial problems related to the Institute have been the subject of intense discussions during the reporting period (see E/CN.15/1994/10).

7. United Nations Development Programme

40. In view of the importance of crime prevention and criminal justice for development, the Branch has undertaken efforts to strengthen its cooperation with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). The Branch receives the annual UNDP country reports on all countries. In

appropriate cases, follow-up action will be taken with the UNDP office in question, including suggestions on technical cooperation in the area of crime prevention and criminal justice that are considered relevant in view of the specific plans for each country. In addition, the Branch also meets with the UNDP Resident Representatives visiting the United Nations Office at Vienna and, if possible when on missions, with the UNDP office in the countries visited.

41. The allocation of UNDP funds, however, depends on the level of priority set by each Government in view of the priority areas proposed by UNDP. This, coupled with the very limited resources allocated to technical cooperation activities within the crime prevention and criminal justice programme, represents a considerable constraint on the initiatives emanating from the Branch. It appears that the importance of crime prevention strategies and a functioning criminal justice system for development is not well enough appreciated either by the Governments of the requesting countries, in most cases the ministry of planning, or by the decision-making bodies of UNDP.

42. The substantial contribution provided by UNDP for the financing of the activities of the African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders allowed the Institute to continue its work during the reporting period. No additional funds, however, are foreseen for 1994 (see E/CN.15/1994/10).

43. Following an advisory service mission to Albania, the Branch assessed a UNDP project proposal regarding the police and public administration sector and the computerization of the criminal justice system in that country (see E/CN.15/1994/6). A follow-up mission is planned for March 1994.

8. World Health Organization

44. The problem of acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS) has a growing impact on the criminal justice system in general, and on the prison system in particular. Already for the Eighth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, held at Havana in 1990, the World Health Organization/Global Programme on AIDS (WHO/GPA) and the Branch prepared a joint report on the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) and AIDS in prison. The Branch continued its close cooperation and exchange of information with WHO/GPA in providing technical advice on the preparation of guidelines in that area, including information on existing United Nations criminal justice policy. Based on a meeting of experts on HIV, AIDS and prisons, held from 15 to 17 September 1992, in which the Branch participated, and on further consultations, the WHO Guidelines on HIV Infection and AIDS in Prisons were published in March 1993. The Guidelines provide standards which prison authorities should strive to achieve in their efforts to prevent HIV transmission in prisons and to provide care to those affected by HIV and AIDS. The Branch assisted in publishing the guidelines, which will be included in the next edition of the Compendium of United Nations Standards and Norms in Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice. As they are expected to be adapted by prison authorities to meet their local needs, the Branch, in cooperation with WHO and UNDCP, will assist Member States in the development of national policies on prisons and AIDS and in their inclusion in national AIDS plans. AIDS-related issues were addressed by the Interregional Adviser on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice. They were also included in training courses for law enforcement officials and prison administrators. Particularly if requests from Member States relate to a combination of AIDS, prisons and drug abuse, they should be met through joint advisory services and other coordinated action of the various United Nations entities involved. To that end, the United Nations Office at Vienna participated in the seventh meeting of the Inter-Agency Advisory Group on AIDS, which is to coordinate AIDS-related activities throughout the United Nations system.

9. United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

45. During the reporting period, the preparation of a manual on prison education, in cooperation with the Institute for Education of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and with the International Council for Adult Education, reached its final stage. The project started in 1991 as a research project on current practices with regard to basic education in correctional institutions in a selection of countries from all regions in the world. On the basis of more than a hundred documents, an interim report was published in January 1992. A seminar is planned for January 1994 on the finalizing of the manual.

10. World Bank

46. Consultations took place with the World Bank during a mission by the Branch to Washington in November 1993. Discussions were held with regard to the activities of the Branch in eastern Europe, in particular the reform project for the Russian Federation, as well as in Cambodia.

B. Cooperation with the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute and the regional institutes affiliated or associated with the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme

47. The Council, in its resolution 1992/22, section IV, paragraph 2, invited all affiliated and associated institutes to submit their programmes of work and report on the implementation thereof to the future sessions of the Commission. Those reports will be integrated into the report on the activities of UNICRI and other institutes (see E/CN.15/1994/10).

48. The network of affiliated or associated institutes has endeavoured to coordinate its work as far as possible with the recommendations guiding the work of the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme. This has resulted in coordination not only with the Branch, but also between the various institutes and other United Nations entities as well as other organizations, thus allowing for a much wider dissemination of information regarding the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme and coordinated action at the regional and subregional level.

49. The network of institutes connected to the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme comprises the following institutes:

(a) UNICRI, established as a United Nations entity, thus forming a part of the United Nations system. The statute of UNICRI was adopted by the Council in its resolution 1989/56 of 24 May 1989;

(b) The affiliated institutes, including: the African Regional Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders (Kampala); the Asia and Far East Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders (Tokyo); the European Institute for Crime Prevention and Control, affiliated with the United Nations (Helsinki); and the Latin American Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders (San José);

(c) The associated institutes, including: the Arab Security Studies and Training Centre (ASSTC) (Riyadh); the Australian Institute of Criminology (Canberra); the International Centre for Criminal Law Reform and Criminal Justice Policy (Vancouver, Canada); and the International Institute for Higher Studies in Criminal Sciences (Siracusa, Italy).

50. The question of affiliation or association of new institutes is currently under consideration in response to section IV, paragraph 3 (h), of Council resolution 1992/22, with a view to further defining

the legal status of the form of ties to the programme.* Several institutes have expressed a considerable interest in acceding to a higher form of commitment to the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme.

51. Coordination between the network of institutes and the secretariat of the crime prevention and criminal justice programme is carried out in a number of ways, including through the convening of the annual joint programme coordination meetings. In 1993, the ninth meeting, hosted and funded by ASSTC, was held in Sharja, United Arab Emirates. That meeting, as well as earlier meetings, served to establish further cooperation and coordination activities, and to support already existing ones. The extrabudgetary nature of the meetings as well as the very limited resources allocated to technical cooperation activities in general constitutes, however, a serious obstacle to further progress in this field. The Branch participated in the Advisory Board meetings of the European Institute and the Latin American Institute. Further information on the subject is contained in the report on the activities of UNICRI and the affiliated and associated institutes (E/CN.15/1994/10).

52. The regional institutes are expected to contribute actively to the preparations for the Ninth Congress, including the regional preparatory meetings held in early 1994. More information on those activities will be found in the report on progress made in the preparations for the Ninth Congress (E/CN.15/1994/8). UNICRI and the regional institutes are actively involved in the preparations for the six workshops to be conducted at the Ninth Congress (see E/CN.15/1994/10).

53. The Branch cooperates with a number of institutes concerning the regional analyses and the publication of data from the United Nations surveys on crime trends and operations of criminal justice systems. Indeed, the work on the Fourth Survey involves all of the regional institutes affiliated with the crime prevention and criminal justice programme. Further information on the subject will be found in the report on progress made in the collection and dissemination of crime-related data and in the improvement of computerization in criminal justice management (E/CN.15/1994/3).

C. Cooperation with intergovernmental organizations

54. With regard to the community of intergovernmental organizations at large, cooperation mainly focused on the mutual exchange of information. On numerous occasions, projects have been submitted by the Branch for evaluation and possible funding by intergovernmental organizations and bodies such as the Commission of the European Communities (CEC), the Council of Europe and the International Criminal Police Organization (ICPO/Interpol). Requests from member States have also been communicated through those organizations to the Branch for consideration. Cooperation and coordination activities have included the initiation of joint activities in areas of mutual interest. The Branch will further develop such contacts.

55. Invitations were extended to a large number of intergovernmental organizations to attend the third session of the Commission. Six intergovernmental organizations were represented at its second session. Similar invitations have been extended in connection with the regional preparatory meetings for the Ninth Congress.

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*The question of the affiliation or association of new institutes was considered by the Eighth Joint Programme Coordination Meeting of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme Network (see E/CN.15/1993/CRP.1). Further discussions were held at the Ninth Joint Programme Coordination Meeting in January 1994.

1. International Criminal Police Organization

56. During the reporting period, project proposals on juvenile justice and on law enforcement, as well as on organized crime, were exchanged with ICPO/Interpol for advice and possible joint action. Requests for technical assistance were received from ICPO/Interpol for evaluation and further action by the Branch. ICPO/Interpol participated in the second session of the Commission.

2. Commonwealth Secretariat

57. The Commonwealth Secretariat attended as an observer at the Ad hoc Expert Working Group Meeting on Model Legislation to Foster Reliance on Model Treaties, held at Vienna from 18 to 21 October 1993. Further channels of mutual exchange of information are expected to be opened between the two entities in the area of mutual legal assistance. Discussions were also held during the reporting period on the possibility of undertaking joint action against corruption.

3. Commission of the European Communities

58. A mutual exchange of information took place during 1993 between CEC and the Branch on the subject of transnational organized crime and the activities undertaken in that area. Discussions were also held regarding the funding of two seminars on the implementation of the Convention on Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters, signed by the member States of the Economic Community of West African States.

4. Council of Europe

59. The Branch and the Council of Europe continued their regular exchange of information and participated in meetings of mutual concern. For example, the Council of Europe attended the meeting on practical assistance to central and eastern European countries, held at Vienna in February 1993, during which, inter alia, a request from the Russian Federation for technical assistance in the implementation of a judicial reform was discussed (for further information on the subject, see the reports contained in documents E/CN.15/1994/6 and E/1994/13). Further, the Branch participated in the Conference on Democratic Institution Building Assistance to the Countries of Central and Eastern Europe, held by the Council of Europe at Strasbourg, France, in December 1993. The Branch also contributed to a meeting of the European Committee on Crime Problems of the Council of Europe, held at Strasbourg in June 1993, where discussions took place on crime-related issues, including the ad hoc criminal tribunal for the conviction of perpetrators of human rights violations in the territory of the former Yugoslavia.

D. Cooperation with non-governmental organizations and other entities

60. Resources and expertise emanating from the community of non-governmental organizations have grown to be an invaluable and very much appreciated source of contributions to the crime prevention and criminal justice programme. The information given below describes only a part of the activities undertaken. It shows, however, that cooperation activities cover the entire area of the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme, and that activities may take all forms, including direct cooperation in the organization and funding of seminars or training courses, contributions in terms of publications of manuals and commentaries, and the exchange of information on matters of mutual interest (for further information on the subject, see the report on implementation of United Nations standards and norms in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice (E/CN.15/1994/7) and in the report on progress made in the implementation of Council resolutions 1992/22 and 1993/31 (E/1994/13)).

61. The seriousness of the engagement of the community of non-governmental organizations in the work of the crime prevention and criminal justice programme was reflected in the large number of non-governmental organizations that attended the second session of the Commission, at which they submitted a draft resolution on the programme, emphasizing, inter alia, the importance of the publication of the Compendium of United Nations Standards and Norms in Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and the implementation of those standards and norms (E/CN.15/1993/NGO/1). An equally large number of non-governmental organizations jointly submitted a draft resolution on violence against women in all its forms (E/CN.1993/NGO/3). The Asia Crime Prevention Foundation (ACPF) also participated actively in the second session of the Commission, presenting a draft resolution on the "ACPF Kuala Lumpur Plan of Action" adopted by its World Conference on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, held at Kuala Lumpur in January 1993, for consideration by the Commission (E/CN.15/1993/NGO/4).

62. A further example of the commitment by the community of non-governmental organizations to the crime prevention and criminal justice programme was the creation in 1991 of the International Scientific and Professional Advisory Council (ISPAC), in accordance with the recommendations of United Nations policy-making bodies, to facilitate closer cooperation with relevant non-governmental organizations. In March 1993, a seminar was held by ISPAC, with the participation of the Branch, on the evaluation of technical assistance and training provided to developing countries. Through ISPAC it was possible to organize an expert meeting, held in Spain in May 1993, on victim protection and conflict resolution. The meeting explored ways and means of promoting the Declaration of Basic Principles of Justice for Victims of Crime and Abuse of Power, adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 40/34 of 29 November 1985. The initiative from the Government of Italy and ISPAC to hold the International Conference on Laundering and Controlling Proceeds of Crime in Italy in June 1994 was welcomed with appreciation by the Economic and Social Council in its resolution 1993/30.

63. A further important event was the creation, as a result of the third plenary session of ISPAC, held in August and September 1993, of the Resource Committee on Human Rights in Criminal Justice. The Committee was created with the objective of supporting the Branch in the implementation and monitoring of the United Nations standards and norms, and in particular to compile training manuals on human rights for use by national police and prison administration.

64. The alliances of non-governmental organizations in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice also bring substantial benefits to the programme. The Alliance of Non-governmental Organizations in New York has undertaken a survey on health care in prisons after consultations with the Branch. The results, based on answers to the survey from 41 countries in all regions of the world, were published in April 1993 in the International Prison Health Care Report. Furthermore, the Alliance of Non-governmental Organizations at Vienna has played an important role in the implementation of the United Nations standards and norms in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice. It has also contributed to the organization of a training course on the structuring of the police in Romania.

65. Concerning cooperation and coordination with non-governmental organizations and other entities in the preparations for the Ninth Congress, it is expected that ancillary meetings organized by the community of non-governmental organizations will take place during the Ninth Congress, as was the practice at previous congresses.

66. The preparations for the workshops to be held at the Ninth Congress have received the active support of various non-governmental organizations. For example, the Forum of the Local and Regional Authorities of Europe for Urban Security participated in an organizational meeting, held under the auspices of the International Institute for Crime Prevention, at Montreal, Canada, in November 1993, on preparations for the workshops on urban planning and on the prevention of violent crime. With regard to the workshop on environmental protection at the national and international levels, responsibility

for preparations has been accepted by the Max-Planck Institute for Foreign and International Criminal Law at Freiburg in Breisgau, Germany, in cooperation with UNICRI, the Australian Institute of Criminology and ISPAC. Responsibility for preparing the workshop on computerization has been accepted by the Office of International Criminal Justice of the University of Illinois, in cooperation with UNICRI, the Asia and Far East Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders and the European Institute for Crime Prevention and Control, affiliated with the United Nations (for further information regarding cooperation with non-governmental organizations and other entities, see the report on progress made in the preparations for the Ninth Congress (E/CN.15/1994/8).

67. Cooperation with non-governmental organizations has enabled the Branch to provide substantive input to a considerable number of training seminars, workshops and conferences. Particularly fruitful cooperation has been initiated with the Raoul Wallenberg Institute of Human Rights and Humanitarian Law at Lund, Sweden. The Institute organizes seminars on human rights and freedoms of the individual and on humanitarian law. At the invitation of the Institute, the Branch participated in two seminars held in Namibia, each for of one week. Similar meetings were held with the participation of the Branch in South Africa, Uganda and Zimbabwe. At the seminars, the Branch presented lectures and training material on the treatment of prisoners and the norms and standards for law enforcement officials. Further cooperation with the Institute is envisaged for 1994. Follow-up seminars are planned for Namibia and Zimbabwe. For further information on cooperation with the Raoul Wallenberg Institute, see the report on implementation of United Nations standards and norms in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice (E/CN.15/1994/7).

68. In cooperation with the International Bar Association, a member of the Branch presented a paper on extradition at a seminar on the alleged transnational criminal, held at Madrid in May 1993. The Branch also contributed to a seminar on prison administration organized by Penal Reform International in Romania in November 1993. Further, a member of the Branch made a presentation on the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme at the 11th World Congress of Criminology, organized by the International Society for Criminology at Budapest in August 1993.

69. The Branch cooperated with several non-governmental organizations on the elaboration of a number of manuals, commentaries and other publications on the implementation of the United Nations standards and norms in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice.* A manual on international standards related to pretrial detention is being prepared in cooperation with the Centre for Human Rights and the Minnesota Lawyers International Human Rights Committee. Furthermore, with the assistance of the Religious Society of Friends, the Branch is finalizing a manual on life imprisonment, focusing on the treatment of life-sentence prisoners in accordance with the Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners.

70. Discussions have also been initiated with the Raoul Wallenberg Institute concerning the publication of a handbook on good policing, which is to provide a practical guide to good policing, employing United Nations human rights and criminal justice standards. The first discussions on this type of practical handbook sprang out of the seminar on human rights organized by the Institute in Uganda in September 1993, where both participants and organizers expressed their strong interest in the preparation of such a publication. It should supplement another publication on law enforcement and human rights being prepared by the Centre for Human Rights and the Branch.

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*A request for continued work in this area was renewed by the Council in its resolution 1993/34, section II, paragraph 4.

71. Cooperation with ACPF, the Asia and Far East Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders and the International Penal and Penitentiary Foundation in the area of the administration of justice has lead to the development of a "Commentary on the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for Non-custodial Measures (The Tokyo Rules)", which will provide practical guidelines on the use and application of the rules. ACPF, the International Penal and Penitentiary Foundation and the Asia and Far East Institute generously contributed to the Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Fund to make the publication of the Commentary possible.

72. In the area of computerization of criminal justice information, the Branch cooperates in particular with the State University of New York at Albany in the further development and transfer to the Branch of the United Nations Criminal Justice Information Network (UNCJIN). Cooperation has also been initiated with the Dag Hammarskjöld Library on the preparation of a CD-ROM disk with information on holdings of the World Criminal Justice Library. The project involves a number of university libraries in cooperation with UNCJIN. Further information on the computerization of criminal justice information will be found in the report on progress made in the improvement of computerization in criminal justice management (E/CN.15/1994/3).

73. In assessing the data from the Fourth United Nations Survey of Crime Trends and Operations of Criminal Justice Systems, the Branch is cooperating with UNICRI and all regional institutes. In addition, a number of other professional entities are actively taking part in the evaluation of the answers received.